

**From:** [Cynthia Fanning](#)  
**To:** [Anne Foster](#); [Barbara Nann](#); [Donn Walters](#); [Garyg Miller](#); [Jessica Franks](#); [Jessica Hernandez](#); [Joy Campbell](#); [Karen McCormick](#); [Sharon Parrish](#); [Stephen Tzhone](#); [Valmichael Leos](#)  
**Subject:** Monthly San Jac update, please!  
**Date:** 09/04/2012 09:38 AM

---

Please send me your San Jacinto River Waste Pits site update for elected officials by COB tomorrow, Sept. 5. Below is last month's update. Thanks again for your assistance!

## **I. Community Outreach**

EPA in cooperation with Harris County and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) facilitated a Community Awareness Committee meeting on July 25, 2012, at the Harris County Pollution Control Offices. State, county and local agencies were briefed on a recent incident involving the integrity of the cap which contains site contaminants. Participants were also updated on progress of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. The TAG recipient also reported out on recent activities.

## **II. Source Stabilization**

On July 23, 2012, the EPA received a notification letter from the respondents referencing a "reduction in the stone cover thickness" along the western edge of the armor cap. On July 24, EPA conducted a site inspection of the western cap area and documented several concerns that will require further investigation. EPA sent a letter to the respondents on July 31, notifying them to take immediate action to repair the damaged area of the cap and conduct a reassessment of the overall design and construction of the armor cap. On August 1, the respondents mobilized to the site to begin repair of the western cap. The cap repair is estimated to be completed within two to three business days. In response to concerns about the armor cap, the EPA will work with technical experts from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reevaluate the overall cap design and construction process.

## **III. Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)**

Analysis and validation of the Southern Impoundment soil, sediment, and groundwater samples is continuing with results expected in August. The Respondents are preparing a revised Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment in response to comments provided from the regulatory agencies. A revised Fate and Transport Model Study report has been received and is currently undergoing reviews by the regulatory agencies. A draft consent order to include the sampling plan for the River Fleet property located northwest of the waste pits is being prepared. The cap porewater samplers were pulled in July for analysis with the results expected in September.

## **IV. Watershed Management**

EPA continues to coordinate with the Port of Houston Authority, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District and the TCEQ. TCEQ envisions completing the total maximum daily load for Buffalo Bayou with regard to dioxin/furan by the end of 2012 and will put together a monitoring and implementation plan to reduce levels in Buffalo Bayou to within national background levels.

## **V. Enforcement**



9549097

The potentially responsible party group continues to conduct the RI/FS under the Unilateral Administrative Order. Respondents continue to work towards resolving the outstanding issue of stipulated penalties resulting from prior noncompliance with the order. In August 2012 Respondents plan to attend a meeting at EPA Region 6 in Dallas to discuss this and related issues. A storm event that occurred near the Site in late July caused considerable damage to the western portion of the armor cap. As a result, EPA is working with Respondents to evaluate the necessary repairs and will be conducting a third party review of the overall effectiveness of the cap design and quality of construction.

~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \*

Cynthia Fanning  
Congressional Liaison  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
direct 214-665-2142  
office 214-665-2200  
fax 214-665-2118

~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \* ~ \*